

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

AID-05 IO-04 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-04 COME-00

SP-02 NSC-05 RSC-01 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 CEA-01 PA-01

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PC-01 NSF-01 CU-02 /063 W

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O R 011653Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6246

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA CITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 8291

BOGOTA/GUATEMALA PASS HERMAN POLLACK: DEPT PASS ALL OTHER
ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AR

SUBJECT: WORKING GROUP ON SCIENCE AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

SUMMARY: AFTER GENERALLY UNSATISFACTORY FIRST SESSION
IN WHICH CHILEAN GROUP CRITICIZED OUR PROPOSAL FOR INTERAMERICAN
MECHANISM AND PUSHED FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF LARGE SPECIAL
FUND WITH MAJOR USG CONTRIBUTION, CHILEANS IN
SECOND SESSION ADVANCED SEVERAL CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS
REGARDING THEINTER-AMERICAN MECHANISM AND DROPPED SPECIAL
FUND IDEA IN FAVOR OF EXPLORING HOW RESOURCES OF EXISTING
AGENCIES COULD BE UTILIZED IN SUPPORT OF EXPANDED S/T
EFFORT.

1. AMBASSADOR BOWDLER MET TWICE WITH CHILEAN TEAM

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HEADED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY ECONOMIC ADVISER RECARDO

CLARO. REPRESENTATIVES OF CONICYT, UNIVERSITIES AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATED.

2. IN FIRST SESSION ONAFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 30 CHILEAN GROUP, WHILE SPEAKING IN INDIVIDUAL CAPACITIES, SOUNDED ALMOST UNANIMOUS NOTE ON THESE FOUR POINTS: (A) OUR PROPOSALS FOR AN INTER-AMERICAN MECHANISM CONTAINED VERY LITTLE THAT WAS NEW FROM COMMISSION PROPOSAL WHICH USDEL PRESENTED AT BRASILIA WG MEETING AND THEREFORE WAS VERY DISAPPOINTING.

(B)IN WHATEVER MECHANISM IS TO BE ESTABLISHED A DISTINCTION SHOULD BE DRAWN BETWEEN THE MECHANISM FOR TRANSFERRING COMMERCIAL TECHNOLOGY AND THE MECHANISM FOR HELPING THE LATIN AMERICANS BUILD UP THEIR OWN TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH FACILITIES.

(C) FOR THE NEW S/T EFFORT TO BE MEANINGFUL A MULTIMILLION DOLLAR FUND SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED WITH CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE FIXED ON THE BASIS OF GENERAL R&D CAPACITY OF EACH STATE.

(D) THE OAS AS NOW CONSTITUTED IS INCAPABLE OF SERVING AS THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE NEW S/T EFFORT, ALTHOUGH IT COULD CONCEIVABLY BE RESTRUCTURED TO SERVE THE PURPOSE.

3. PATRICIO ROJAS, FORMERLY WITH OAS SECRETARIAT, WAS PARTICULARLY ACERBIC IN CRITICIZING PAST INTER-AMERICAN EFFORTS IN SCIENCE AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY FIELD, ALLEGING THAT MORE THAN ENOUGH STUDIES AND SURVEYS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DONE AND ARE GATHERING DUST IN FILES RATHER THAN EMERGING IN ANYTHING TANGIBLE. ROJAS' CONCERN, IN ADDITION TO NEED FOR SUBSTANTIAL NEW RESOURCES, WAS WITH STIMULATING TECHNICAL PROGRESS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR WHICH HE SAW COMING ABOUT ONLY THROUGH THE CREATION OF NATINAL RESEARCH CAPABILITIES WHICH CAN BE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF PRIVATE INDUSTRY. ENRIQUE D'ETIGNY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHILE LED THE ADVOCACY FOR A SPECIAL FUND AND THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN TRANSFER OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY AND ASSISTANCE TO BUILD UP NATIONAL R/D CAPABILITIES.

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4. BOWDLER POINTED OUT THAT OUR NEW WORKING PAPER ON INTER-AMERICAN MECHANISM REPRESENTS SUBSTANTIAL REVISION OVER EARLIER PAPER. HE EXPLAINED THAT OUR ASSESSMENT OF FUNDING ISSUE IS THAT WHAT IS NEEDED IS ESTABLISHING OF PRIORITIES AND WORKING THROUGH EXISTING AGENCIES TO CHANNEL RESOURCES INTO S/T RATHER THAN ESTABLISHMENT OF LARGE, SPECIAL FUND. HE SAID THAT MAKING PROVISION WITHIN NEW MECHANISM FOR SEPARATE

FOCUS ON TRANSFER OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY AND ASSISTANCE
TO DEVELOP NATIONAL S/T CAPABILITIES MERITS CONSIDERATION
ALTHOUGH TOO COMPARTMENTALIZED AN APPROACH MIGHT
BE SELF-DEFEATING. HE AGREED THAT SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES
IN OAS STRUCTURE ARE WARRANTED AND NECESSARY AND WE ARE
ALREADY THINKING ALONG THOSE LINES.

5. IN MORNING SESSION ON OCTOBER 31, CHILEAN GROUP
DID NOT PRESS THEIR SPECIAL FUND CONCEPT BUT CONCENTRATED
ON CONSTRUCTIVE CRITIQUE OF OUR MECHANISM PAPER
AND REVIEW OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT POSSIBILITIES FROM
EXISTING AGENCIES. WHETHER FAILURE TO PUSH SPECIAL
FUND IDEA REFLECTED ASSESSMENT THIS NOT BEST APPROACH
OR DESIRE TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH US IS NOT CLEAR.
(CLARO IN CONFIDENTIAL ASIDE TO BOWDLER COVERED SUBSTANCE
OF SANTIAGO 6635).

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6. WITH RESPECT TO OUR PROPOSAL ON INTER-AMERICAN MECHANISM

THE CHILEANS MADE THESE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS:

- A) COORDINATING COMMITTEE SHOULD HAVE POWER OF DECISION AND NOT BE LIMITED TO "RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSALS."
- B) THERE SHOULD BE TWO TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS, ONE TO HANDLE TRANSFER OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY AND THE OTHER TO HELP COUNTRIES BUILD UP NATIONAL S/T CAPABILITIES. BOTH COMMISSIONS SHOULD BE HIGHLY TECHNICAL AND MADE UP OF ONLY A FEW CAREFULLY SELECTED EXPERTS.
- C) BOTH TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS SHOULD BE ABLE TO USE AD HOC EXPERT GROUPS.
- D) THE OAS SPECIAL FUND SHOULD BE PLACED UNDER THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE IN ANY FUTURE OAS RESTRUCTURING, WITH THE TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS TO PASS JUDGMENT ON SPECIFIC PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED BY THE FUND.
- E) IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO SETUP AN INTER-AMERICAN CONFIDENTIAL

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FOUNDATION WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION AND LINKED IN SOME WAY TO THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE THE TRAINING AND EXCHANGE OF TECHNICIANS AND POSSIBLY TO ENCOURAGE IN OTHER WAYS THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. IN THIS CONNECTION THE CHILEANS MENTIONED THE ROCKEFELLER REPORT RECOMMENDATION ON THIS SUBJECT. WE LEFT IT THAT THE CHILEANS WOULD PUT THEIR IDEAS DOWN ON PAPER AND FORWARD THEM TO THE DEPARTMENT VIA THE EMBASSY.

7. ON THE QUESTION OF FINANCING WE REVIEWED THE POSSIBILITIES OFFERED BY EXISTING AGENCIES AS OUTLINED IN TALKING POINTS PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT. CHILEANS MADE THESE POINTS WHICH COORDINATOR JOHNSTON MIGHT BEGIN EXPLORING RIGHT AWAY:

- A) TO WHAT EXTENT WOULD EXIM BANK FACILITIES BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST COUNTRIES DEVELOP THEIR R/D CAPABILITIES?
- B) COULD SPTF MONIES BE USED TO SET UP A REVOLVING FUND TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE BANK TO HELP FINANCE RESEARCH DESIRED BY NATIONAL INDUSTRIES AND NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AS A MEANS OF ENCOURAGING PRIVATE ENTERPRISE TO USE NATIONAL RESEARCH FACILITIES? (UNDERSTANDING WOULD BE THAT IN CASE OF SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH BENEFITTED INDUSTRY WOULD PAY BACK R/D COSTS AND IN CASE OF FAILURE INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT AND IDB WOULD SHARE IN COVERING COST-- NO DOUBT A TRICKY PROGRAM TO DEVISE AND ADMINISTER, BUT AN INTERESTING IDEA IN ANY EVENT.)
- C) WHETHER VENEZUELA WOULD BE WILLING TO SEND PEOPLE TO SUB-GROUP IV MEETING TO EXPLAIN WHAT THE GOV MIGHT BE WILLING TO DO TO HELP LA COUNTRIES IN S/T FIELD.
- D) WHETHER THE USG WOULD BE WILLING TO GIVE FISCAL INCENTIVES TO COMPANIES THAT USE THEIR RESOURCES IN BUILDING R/D FACILITIES IN LA COUNTRIES?

8. REGARDING DATES FOR SUB-GROUP IV AND WORKING GROUP MEETINGS, WHILEANS PROCEEDING WITH PLANS TO HOLD SUB-GROUP MEETING FROM NOV 25-30 AND STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT WG SESSION BE HELD IN URUGUAY DURING WEEK OF JANUARY 5 AFTER THREE KINGS DAY. THEY SAID DECEMBER TOO BUSY A MONTH AND SECOND WEEK OF JANUARY WOULD BE BEFORE HEAVY SUMMER VACATION SCHEDULE BEGINS.
CRIMMINS

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